

Message Text

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64

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, YO, HU, BL, RO, UR, CZ, PL (HOUSER, THOMAS)

SUBJ: AMSPECIALIST IN U.S. ELECTORAL PROCESS: THOMAS

HOUSER

REFS: A) BELGRADE 1026, B) MOSCOW 4169, C) BUCHAREST 1430,

D) BUDAPEST 871, E) BELGRADE 1810, F) MOSCOW 4309, G) SOFIA

607

1. BIO DATA ON THOMAS HOUSER FOLLOWS: BORN JUNE TWENTY-EIGHT, 1929 IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. ATTENDED MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE IN LANSING (1947-48) AND RECEIVED A.B. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE FROM HANOVER COLLEGE IN INDIANA (1951).

TOOK GRADUATE COURSES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE

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AT THE ADVANCED SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (1951-52) AND OBTAINED J.D. DEGREE FROM NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW IN CHICAGO (1956-59). PER REFTEL A, HOUSER IS A LAWYER AND PARTNER WITH SIDLEY AND AUSTIN (SINCE 1973). HE IS A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN, CHICAGO AND FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATIONS AND THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR CABLE TELEVISION. OTHER ORGANIZA-

TIONS INCLUDE DIRECTOR OF BARRINGTON STATE BANK, SKOKIE FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION AND MARTIN E. JANIS AND CO.

2. HOUSER PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE U.S. ELECTIONS PROCESS. TOPICS PROPOSED INCLUDE:

- A. PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS: PRIMARIES AND GENERAL ELECTIONS
- B. THE CONGRESS/CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS
- C. TRENDS IN OUR POLITICAL SYSTEM

HE COULD ALSO COMMENT ON THE PUBLIC MOOD AND THE INFLUENCE OF THE MEDIA. HOUSER PREFERENCES A WORKSHOP/SEMINAR FORMAT FOR PRESENTATIONS. HE WOULD GIVE A TALK RANGING FROM 30-60 MINUTES AND OPEN THE DISCUSSION WITH QUESTIONS. FEELS PROGRAMMING SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN INFORMAL ATMOSPHERE WITH EMPHASIS ON DIALOGUE RATHER THAN LECTURES.

3. TENTATIVE ITINERARY FOLLOWS BASED ON REFTELS:

- A. APRIL TWENTY-FIVE - THIRTY - HUNGARY
- B. MAY ONE - SIX - YUGOSLAVIA
- C. MAY SEVEN - EIGHT - BULGARIA

4. FOR MOSCOW: HOUSER'S TOPICS RELATE MORE TO NATIONAL ELECTIONS' PROCESSES THAN MOORE'S TOPICS, ALTHOUGH VIEWS ARE NOT "SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT."

5. FOR SOFIA: CU WILL ATTEMPT RESPOND REFTEL G SOONEST.

6. FOR BUCHAREST: BELGRADE 1504 CONCERNS REQUEST FOR AMSPEC FOR SKOPJE ENVIRONMENTAL SEMINAR.

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7. FOR ALL INFO POSTS: HOUSER IS WILLING TO BEGIN

PROGRAMMING APRIL FIFTEEN IF INFO POSTS INTERESTED AND CAN PROGRAM DURING PERIOD APRIL FIFTEEN THROUGH TWENTY-FOUR. KISSINGER

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